that line. They also captured some of the air bases from which American and Chinese planes had been operating. They seized Foochow, one of the few seaports remaining in Chinese hands.

The outcome of the titanic struggle seemed to be resolving itself into a race between China's associates, chiefly British and Americans on the one hand, pressing in through the ring of Japan's defenses and bringing succor to the "free" China which had been bearing the long strain of war, and, on the other hand, the drive of the Japanese army to move on into China, dispersing the Chinese armies, and entrenching itself ever more deeply.

In spite of the advance of Japan on its soil, the exhaustion of prolonged war, the dissensions within its borders, and the rapidly mounting inflation, even after 1937 China was making progress in a number of directions. The outside world had difficulty in learning what was taking place in the areas controlled by the Communists, but from such information as seeped through the censorship it seemed probable that under direction of these elements important changes were effected in the north and northeast of China proper. Local administration containing some popular features was being developed and rents and interest rates were being lowered. The leaders were trained in Communist ideology, but thoroughgoing Communism or even the socialism of the Russian type was not being enforced. Elaborate and, in general, effective resistance to the Japanese was organized and maintained. The movement had in it much that was akin to peasant uprisings or of reforms on behalf of the peasants in earlier periods in China's history. In the areas, much larger in extent and population, which were controlled by the Kuomintang

through the Chungking regime, progress was also being achieved. Much criticism was directed against the Kuomintang and the party itself contained factions. Some of the latter had what were commonly but rather loosely called Fascist tendencies. Secret societies and dissident groups existed, more or less openly flaunting the authority of the government. Yet Chiang Kai-shek retained his leadership. If anything, it was strengthened. He visited India. He shared in a conference in Cairo, in 1943, with Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain and President Roosevelt of the United States. Concentration camps were maintained for those deemed dangerous politically, yet through the People's Political Council